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Medecyna Weterynaryjna, No 3, 1951.

ORGANIZATION AND TASKS OF THE VETERINARY SERVICE IN POLISH STATE FARMS

In accordance with the provisions of the Six-Year Plan, the PGR (Panstwowe Gospodarstwa Rolne, State Farms) have continued to expand livestock production and are becoming large suppliers of meat and other products of animal origin. Since the greatly increased animal population and conditions of mass breeding increase the danger of loss through sickness, especially infectious diseases, the PGR Veterinary Service has been created to protect livestock.

Because of the shortage of veterinary personnel, it is impossible to employ a veterinarian or veterinary technician for each PGR farm group and a veterinary assistant for each farm, to assure adequate protection. For the time being, the PGR groups have been staffed with veterinary assistants. The PGR employ veterinarians only in the Central Administration, the regional administrations, and artificial insemination stations.

Within the 6-year period, the number of veterinary assistants is expected to increase sufficiently to provide at least one assistant for every two farms, one technician for each group, and a veterinarian for each breeding group.

It is the task of the PGR veterinary assistants and technicians to employ prophylactic measures for combating infectious and parasitic diseases and to prevent food poisoning and avitaminosis. Better results are obtained from prophylaxis than from therapy. The veterinary service supervises the feeding and raising of livestock, inspects sanitary conditions, employs disgnosis and prophylactic inoculations against infectious diseases.

The PGR veterinary assistants give first aid to sick animals in emergencies, handle simple cases, and carry out the orders of the veterinarians.

In 1951, the PGR veterinary assistants will handle prophylactic inoculations of pigs against erysipelas, lightening the load of the State Veterinary Service and reducing the costs of livestock production in the PGR.

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To facilitate first aid in emergencies, the PGR carry a small stock of simple medications and instruments. The veterinary assistants in PGR groups have a pharmacy much better equipped and stocked.

Cases of serious sickness and those requiring clinical attention are sent to the nearest PZLZ (Panstwowe Zaklady Lecznicze dla Zwierzat, State Hospitals for Animals).

The veterinary service of the PGR groups and farms directed by the veterinarians in charge of the veterinary sections of the PGR regional administrations. These veterinarians work out the problems of the region, supervise and train veterinary assistants, organize various veterinary programs in the PGR, and cooperate with the State Veterinary Service in combating infectious diseases in the PGR.

With several hundred farms in each region, it is imperative to follow closely all scientific advances and to continue training. The veterinary section of the FGR regional administration employs in addition to one or two veterinarians, lay administrative officers.

It is the task of the PGR veterinarians employed in insemination stations to combat sterility in animals in the area within the station's jurisdiction.

To combat tuberculosis and brucellosis in animals, special veterinary teams will be organized for greater efficiency and systematic research.

The over-all veterinary problems of the PGR are being worked out by the Veterinary Division of the PGR Central Administration. It directs the work of the PGR field versonnel and cooperates with the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture. In 1950, the Veterinary Division of the PGR Central Administration placed special emphasis on reducing losses from hog plague by the introduction of mass prophylactic inoculations of crystal violet against the plague. It also increased its fight against helminthiasis in sheep, brood mares, and colts and against the gadfly. In 1951, in addition to the present program, special emphasis will be placed on efficient veterinary care, and on organizing the campaign against tuberculosis, brucellosis, and sterility.

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